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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Bilateral Meeting with the Turks -- 13 May 1981,
0930 -- Conference Room #7, NATO Headquarters

PARTICIPANTS:

US

Secretary of Defense Weinberger
Ambassador W. Tapley Bennett
Dr. Fred C. Ikle
General Richard C. Bowman
Brigadier General Carl Smith

TURKEY

MOD Haluk Bayulken
and others

(S) 1. Turkish Air Force Spare Parts. MOD Bayulken said that spare parts for his Air Force had become a very urgent matter. The agreement with the US called for Turkey to have first priority after the US Air Force, but the parts were still coming very late. He asked if the US could give priority equal to that given to USAF aircraft in Europe. Secretary Weinberger said he would do what he could to speed up delivery.

(C) 2. Delivery of Military Assistance Material. Bayulken said that after agreement was reached on the deliveries for a particular year, Turkey expected those deliveries to begin early in the year and continue throughout the year. In actual practice, however, nothing arrives until the end of the year. Gen. Bowman indicated that this was probably due to normal lead time between orders and deliveries. Weinberger said we could try to get the planning done earlier so that deliveries could begin early in the year.

(C) 3. Military Assistance in the New Budget. Bayulken cited the House Committee action which changed the direct credit of \$250 to 1/4 grant aid and 3/4 normal FMS credits. He said this would hurt him at home because he had to fight the intelligencia which gave headlines to anything that indicated a US retreat from support for Turkey. Dr. Ikle said that we had analyzed the House Committee action and found that it did not make much difference in the actual amount of assistance to Turkey. The Committee took the action not to decrease the aid, but rather to help the US with an outlay problem. Secretary Weinberger said we would have to look into it carefully to see what the actual effect was. The Turkish side suggested that perhaps the direct grant portion put in by the House Committee would have greater purchasing power because it could be

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used for special purposes. Weinberger agreed to examine the matter further and try to have more information by the time of Bayulken's visit to Washington.

(C) 4. M-48 Tank Modernization. Bayulken said that Turkey needed to modernize several thousand M-48 tanks, and hoped the US could provide the modernization kits quickly. He also asked if Turkey could have the M-60's which would be going out of service as the XM-1's were phased in. Weinberger explained that the M-60's would be going to National Guard and Reserve Units, but indicated that he would look into the possibility of providing some to the Turks. He added that M-60's could be purchased if arrangements were made before the line closed.

(C) 5. Military Assistance Planning. Bayulken said he would like to plan the Military Assistance program for a six year period instead of only five years. Weinberger said he saw no problem with this.

(S) 6. Turkish Assistance to the US in Out-of-area Crises. Bayulken said Turkey would do whatever was necessary when the chips were down. He added that the quality of Turkish forces with respect to training and leadership was such that even with inferior equipment they provided a guarantee of security for the area, and that countries like Iraq recognize this fact. Weinberger agreed that the Turkish forces were very important for the stability of the area and said that the US appreciated their quality. Bayulken added that it would be very important to have a NATO umbrella for out-of-area actions.



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